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# 2020 CENSUS For our Communities



# Agenda

- ▶ WHO IS TIRRC
- ▶ WHAT IS THE 2020 CENSUS
- ▶ TIMELINE & PARTICIPATION
- ▶ WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ON THE 2020 CENSUS
- ▶ WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PARTICIPATE
- ▶ HOW CAN YOU HELP
- ▶ QUESTIONS



# Who is TIRRC?

The Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) is a statewide, immigrant and refugee-led collaboration whose mission is to empower immigrants and refugees throughout Tennessee to develop a unified voice, defend their rights, and create an atmosphere in which they are recognized as positive contributors to the state.



3

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# What is the 2020 Census?

The U.S. Census is done every 10 years to get a complete count of the country's population and the data is used to :

- ▶ Distribute or allocate \$800 billion to all the states for various programs and services their communities.
- ▶ 2. Use the census data results to calculate the number of congressional members each state is entitled to have.
  - TN could gain a congressional seat after the 2020 Census because the population has increased.



# 2020 CENSUS TIMELINE

- ▶ **March 12, 2020 - April 2020:** Self Responses - Households receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census (some households will receive paper questionnaires).
- ▶ **March 16 – 24:** A reminder letter is sent.
- ▶ **March 26 – April 3:** A reminder postcard is sent.
- ▶ **April 8 – 16:** A reminder letter and paper questionnaire is sent.
- ▶ **April 20 - April 27:** Final reminder to complete self responses.
- ▶ **May 13 - July 31 2020:** Census Bureau will send census takers to knock on doors of households that still need to fill out the census. *(Filling out the census early is best option)*



# How Can You Complete The Census in 2020?

- ▶ Call the census on your phone



- ▶ Internet



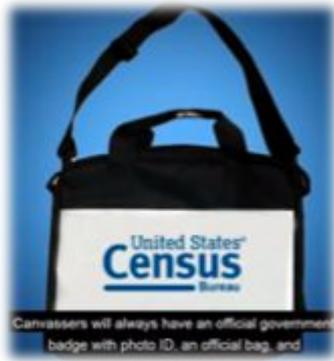
- ▶ Mail in the paper form  
(please note that not everyone will  
Receive one



# Verifying a Census Taker



- First, check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.



- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative.



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# Census Takers

*If Census takers/enumerators do visit your home or the home of your neighbor, landlord or other “proxy:”*



- They will never ask to enter the home.
- They will identify themselves and wear a U.S. Census Bureau badge.
- They will only ask questions that are on the questionnaire - this means they will not ask about citizenship or immigration status, or financial information.
- They will never ask for or request additional documentation.



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# Everyone Participates! Regardless of Their Immigration status

Babies

Children

Adults

Relatives

In-laws

Friends

Children of friends

Grand parents



# WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ON THE CENSUS?

For everyone in the household i.e., **each** baby, child, adult, or elderly person living in the household will be asked:

- ▶ Name
- ▶ Gender
- ▶ Hispanic or not
- ▶ Telephone (
- ▶ Race
- ▶ If they live somewhere else
- ▶ Relationship e.g., daughter, son, cousin, grandparent, aunt,
- ▶ Whether the residence is a house, apartment, or mobile home



# What the 2020 Census Questionnaire will NOT Ask

- ▶ Citizenship Status
- ▶ Immigration Status
- ▶ Social Security Number
- ▶ Permits or licensing of any converted units on property
- ▶ Use of public benefits
- ▶ Criminal background or convictions
- ▶ Bank account or payment information
- ▶ Employment, income or wealth information



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# Why is it Important to Participate?

Funding for programs and services e.g.,

Children's Services e.g.,

- ▶ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)
- ▶ WIC
- ▶ State Children's Health insurance (CHIP)
- ▶ Head Start

Healthcare e.g.,

- ▶ Medicare
- ▶ Medicaid
- ▶ Where healthcare facilities should be built

Education e.g.,

- ▶ Funding public schools
- ▶ Special education grants
- ▶ ESL programs students



# What is at risk ?

- ▶ During the 2010 Census, an estimated 2.2 million kids under the age of 5 years old were not counted.
- ▶ Tennessee undercounted 19,431 kids under the age of 5 years old
- ▶ Tennessee lost \$1,090 per person per year.
- ▶ If there is an undercount, it is expected during the 2020 Census Tennessee will lose \$12 million per year for the next decade.



# Hard to Count Communities

Some communities are historically undercounted; immigrants and refugees are one of the hardest to count populations especially children under 5 due to:

- ▶ **Language barriers**
- ▶ **Lack on knowledge**
- ▶ **Fear of government**
- ▶ **Digital divide**
- ▶ **Discrimination**
- ▶ **Hard to count populations include** Complex households, Immigrants, People of color, Renters, Children, Displaced populations, People in Poverty, Cities with significant Immigrants or Non-English Speaking, and Young mobile adults Populations.



# CENSUS DATA

- ▶ The Census Bureau only shares statistical information or data in aggregate form; personal information e.g., individuals' names and addresses are not shared.
- ▶ Census workers are sworn to protect our information for life! If they break this law they can go to federal prison for 5 years and/or pay a fine of \$250,000.
- ▶ US Census efforts are protected in the US Constitution and we encourage everyone to participate.



# TIRRC's "Yes I Count TN" 2020 Census Campaign

- ▶ Our goal - to get as many non-U.S born Tennesseans educated and engaged in the 2020 census
- ▶ Our vision - to form a coalition with organizations, community leaders, municipalities, religious leaders, businesses, and more., that will focus on ensuring immigrants and refugees in TN get counted and receive all the resources that their communities need to be fully integrated, and continue to be wholesome contributors to our state.
- ▶ Ways to join the campaign/collaboration with other partners
  - Tiers of engagement with organizations who can for example partner with us and other partners to
    - Convene local tables to strategize on how to reach hard to count communities
    - Train census ambassadors in your city/communities
    - Organize census workshop/parties/census kiosks
    - Organize door knocking operations or canvassing to educate the community
    - Disseminate information through social media, community presentations, one-on-one etc.



# Resources

- ▶ Census One pager
  - English
  - Spanish
  - Burmese
  - Korean
  - Kurdish
  - Laos
  - Somali
  - Swahili
  - Vietnamese
- ▶ Census Pledge Cards
- ▶ Event Website
- ▶ Train the trainer



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# QUESTIONS???



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# Thank you.

Cesar Bautista Sanchez  
Campaign Manager  
615-829-6418

[Cesar@tnimmigrant.org](mailto:Cesar@tnimmigrant.org)

[www.tnimmigrant.org](http://www.tnimmigrant.org)



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